

Message Text

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11

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

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P R 071700Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9781

INFO AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS PO AO

SUBJ: PROTESTING MPLA LEADERS CALL FOR PARTY CONGRESS

SUMMARY: LISBON PRESS REPORTS THAT GROUP OF DISSIDENT BRAZZAVILLE-BASED MPLA LEADERS IS CALLING FOR A PARTY CONGRESS TO CRITICIZE AGOSTINHO NETO'S "PRESIDENTIAL ABSOLUTISM". ALTHOUGH INITIAL REPORT INDICATED NETO AGREED TO DISCUSS CONGRESS PROPOSAL WITH PROTESTING GROUP LATER REPORT DENIES IT.
END SUMMARY.

1. JUNE 4 ISSUE OF LISBON AFTERNOON DAILY DIARIO DE LISBOA CARRIED REPORT FROM BRAZZAVILLE THAT 19 CURRENT AND FORMER MPLA LEADERS HAD SIGNED A PUBLIC STATEMENT PROTESTING
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THE "PRESIDENTIAL ABSOLUTISM" OF AGOSTINHO NETO AND

CALLING FOR AN IMMEDIATE PARTY CONGRESS. NETO REPORTEDLY REFUSED TO DISCUSS THE MATTER WITH PROTESTERS, AGREEING TO SEE THEM ONLY AFTER INTERVENTION OF DR. JOAQUIM PINTO DE ANDRADE, FORMER ANGOLAN PRIEST WHOM PORTUGUESE JAILED FOR MUCH OF 1960'S (AND WHO WAS ELECTED HONORARY PRESIDENT OF MPLA WHILE JAILED IN DECEMBER 1962).

2. PINTO DE ANDRADE JUSTIFIED EFFORT TO RESOLVE MPLA INTERNAL CRISIS ON GROUNDS THAT PERSISTENCE THESE INTERNAL DIVISIONS WILL HOLD UP NEGOTIATIONS WITH FLNA FOR CREATION OF A UNITED FRONT, AND ALSO WILL IMPEDE RESPONSE TO LISBON OVERTURES FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF A DIALOGUE.

3. PROTESTING 19 (WHO INCLUDE THREE OF MPLA FOUNDERS) CLAIM THAT INTERNAL DIVISIONS MUST BE RELEGATED TO BACKGROUND IF FIGHT AGAINST PORTUGUESE IMPERIALISM TO CONTINUE. STATEMENT DISCOUNTS CHANGES IN LISBON AS MEANING "FULL DEMOCRACY FOR PORTUGAL AND COLONIALISM FOR ANGOLA". AFTER REVIEWING MPLA'S WEAKNESSES AND FAILINGS, STATEMENT CHARGES THAT ORGANIZATION HAS BEEN UNDERMINED BY "RACISM, TRIBALISM AND REGIONALISM", FAULTS IT LAYS AT DOOR OF CURRENT PRESIDENT. STATEMENT CALLS FOR IMMEDIATE PARTY CONGRESS OPTN TO ALL ACTIVISTS, INCLUDING THOSE WHO HAVE BROKEN OFF IN REACTION AGAINST NETO'S ONE-MAN RULE. CONGRESS WOULD HAVE FUNDAMENTAL PURPOSE OF RESTORING MOVEMENT'S PRINCIPLES AND REPLACING NETO'S ONE-MAN BAND WITH COLLEGIAL LEADERSHIP.

4. JUNE 6 ISSUE DIARIO DE LISBOA CARRIED INTERVIEW WITH PRO-NETO MEMBER MPLA DIRECTING COMMITTEE. HE REJECTED NEGOTIATIONS WITH DISSIDENT GROUP AND DENOUNCED GROUP'S STATEMENT AS A DIVERSIONARY MANEUVER AND A BETRAYAL OF MPLA MOVEMENT. HE DISMISSED IMPORTANCE OF 19 DISSIDENTS SAYING ALL HAD LONG SINCE BEEN LEFT OUT OF MOVEMENT EITHER BECAUSE OF POLITICAL DIFFERENCES OR REFUSAL TO FIGHT IN ANGOLA. DIRECTING COMMITTEE MEMBER ACCUSED 19 OF ATTEMPTING TO IMPAIR MPLA'S MILITARY EFFORT AND IMPEDE DIALOGUE WITH PORTUGUESE AIMED AT ACHIEVING ANGOLAN INDEPENDENCE.

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5. WHILE DIMENSIONS OF THE SPLIT WITHIN THE MPLA ARE NOT CLEAR, IT IS OF CLEAR SIGNIFICANCE FOR THE FUTURE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN PORTUGUESE AND THE ANGOLAN LIBERATION MOVEMENTS.

6. LIST OF 19 DISSIDENTS FOLLOWS:
MARIA, ADOLFO - DIRECTOR, ANGOLAN STUDY CENTER
MINGAS, AMELIA - DIRECTOR, ANGOLAN EDUCATION INSTITUTE

WILSON, ANA - EX-DIRECTOR, MPLA MEDICAL CARE SERVICES
MENESES, ANTONIO - NORTHERN FRONT ARTILLERY INSTRUCTOR
KANGA, ARMANDO - SECY, MPLA OFFICER IN BRASSAVILLE
SILVA, REV. DOMINGOS DA - VICE PRESIDENT, MPLA
MONIMAMBO, FLORIBERT - CHIEF OF GENERAL STAFF FOR NORTHERN FRONT
VIANA, GENTIL - COUNSELOR TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE MPLA
MENESES, DR. HUGO - EX-DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE SERVICE
FOR NORTHERN FRONT
MULAMBO, INACIO - FROM THE CENTER FOR REVOLUTIONARY INSTRUCTION
FOR NORTHERN FRONT
LOPES, DR. JOAO VIEIRA - EX-MEMBER OF MPLA NATIONAL COUNCIL
CARMELINO, LUIS - FROM THE TEACHING SECTION OF THE ANGOLAN
EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTE
VIROYIA, DR. MANUEL - EX-DIRECTOR OF THE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE
SERVICES FOR FOURTH MILITARY REGION
REIS, MARIA DO CEU CARMO - MEMBER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
AND CULTURE FOR NORTHERN FRONT
FILIPE, MARIA - MEMBER OF RADION AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES
ANDRADE, MARIO DE PINTO - EX-PRESIDENT OF MPLA AND BROTHER OF
JOAQUIM PINTO DE ANDRADE
KANGA, PEDRO - DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL UNION OF ANGOLAN WORKERS
ZULUMONGO, VIRGILIO - FROM THE MOVEMENT FOR READJUSTMENT OF THE
NORTHERN FRONT
SANTOS, EDUARDO - EX-DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE SERVICE.
SCOTT

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TAGS: PINS, PINT, PO, AO, MPLA, (NETO, AGOSTINHO), (PINTO DE ANDRADE, JOAQUIM),
To: STATE
Type: TE
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